

The House Committee on State Planning and Community Affairs - Local Legislation offers the following substitute to SB 323:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend an Act providing for the election of members of the Board of Education of Jeff Davis County, approved March 27, 1972 (Ga. L. 1972, p. 2760), as amended, so as to change the description of the education districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for election and terms of office of subsequent members; to provide for submission of this Act for approval under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act providing for the election of members of the Board of Education of Jeff Davis County, approved March 27, 1972 (Ga. L. 1972, p. 2760), as amended, is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1 of said Act and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) Those members of the Board of Education of Jeff Davis County who are serving as such immediately prior to January 1, 2006, and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue to serve as such members until the regular expiration of their respective terms of office and upon the election and qualification of their respective successors. On and after January 1, 2006, the Board of Education of Jeff Davis County shall consist of seven members, five of whom shall be elected from education districts described in subsection (b) of this section and two of whom shall be elected at large as provided in subsection (c) of this section. Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, as they exist immediately prior to January 1, 2006, shall continue to be designated as Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively, but as newly described under this Act, and on and after January 1, 2006, such members of the board serving from those former education districts shall be deemed to be serving from and representing their respective districts as newly described under this Act.

(b)(1) For purposes of electing members of the board of education, other than the two members who are elected at large, the Jeff Davis County School District is divided into five education districts. One member of the board shall be elected from each such district. The five education districts shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan Name: jeffdccsbw3 Plan Type: Local User: staff Administrator: Jeff Davis.

(2) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any part of the Jeff Davis County School District which is not included in any such district described in that attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any part of the Jeff Davis County School District which is described in that attachment as being in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Except as otherwise provided in the description of any education district, whenever the description of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census map for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia."

SECTION 2.

The Board of Education of Jeff Davis County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or filed with the appropriate court no later than 60 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

SECTION 3.

This section and Section 2 of this Act and those provisions of this Act necessary for the election of members of the Board of Education of Jeff Davis County in 2006 shall become

1 effective upon the approval of this Act by the Governor or upon its becoming law without
2 such approval. The remaining provisions of this Act shall become effective January 1, 2006.

3 **SECTION 4.**

4 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.